Beyond Penn's Treaty

Account of the Exercise and Experiences of an Indian Man

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The following is an account of the Exercises of Experience of an Indian.

Man, as related by him self, of a member of Six Nations, told me often of the reflections of his heart, as it was only in his own mind. In the course of these reflections, the man thought of the events of his life, and how he passed through them. He often spoke of the importance of remembering these events, and of the necessity of remembering the lessons that were learned from them.

He often said that the events of his life were like a book, and that he should remember the lessons that were learned from them. He often spoke of the importance of remembering the lessons that were learned from the events of his life, and of the necessity of remembering the lessons that were learned from them.

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The Following is an account of the Exercise & Experience of an Indian ytf Man as Related by him self to a Number of Friends, says I Dont often open ytf my mind to any, but I now feel the way is open. and more than a freedom to ytf Do it some years Past it was laid upon me to Encourage others to Do well; Iytf thought I was a Poore ignorant Indian, I could not Encourage others to Do ytf well, so I shoved it away (Putting his hand out as tho he had Put it fromytf him, then fetching his hand back again & laying it on his breast, saysytf it was brought back again & laid upon me, I then shoved it away again,ytf & so he Did a number of times Implying the reasoning state of his Mindytf It was then opened to my view, that the truth was a Very precious thing,ytf very precious Indeed. Oh how Precious it Doth look to me. He can say it isytf innocent, we can say it is Innocent, thats all we can say. words cannot sayytf half. I then said with Peter Depart from me O Lord, I am a sinful man butytf it was brought back & laid upon me again some morning as I was going toytf a Prespeterian meeting I saw a flock of sheepytf along before me Puting his hand to his Eyes, says I Did not see them withytf these Eyes. they appeard to be traveling a long before me. the foremostytf ones was half grown large, & I heard them talking to one another.ytf Puting his hand to his Ears says but not with those Ears saying to oneytf another God speed help you on the way, the hindmost looked Poore, small,ytf their heads hund Down seemed almost ready to give out I wondered what itytf should mean Then something come & talked with me Puting his hand to hisytf Breast, says it talked to me here, and told me, these are my sheep &ytf this Day you shall see them lift up their heads in hope, & feed on theytf bread of Life Then it said to me, them that are before are the Priest &ytf Deacons, they are grown fat & full, they can Encourage one an othersytf but they forget the Poore of the flock. I went on to the meeting, the ytf Priest Preached, Prayed, & sung & used the Very words, I heard the fatytf sheep use one to another. And after he had Done, I thought it my Duty toytf tell them what I see on the way; so I Did & thought I saw my Visionytf fulfilled, the Poore of the flock, lifted up their heads in hope & fedytf on the bread of Life, the Priest acknowledged in the Presence of theytf People, that what I said was True and that the Truth, had been Declaredytf among them by a Poore Ignorant an; Then I went home Veryytf comfortable, Oh, how comfortable I Did feel Then sometimes I feel my mindytf Drawn in to simpathy with some, I want to go & see them, I was ytf yet would think it other to Do well, I Did not want folks to thinkytf so I feel such a simpathy for one poore family I want to go see them, at itytf did not no how to Do, so I thought I would take a grist on my back & goytf beyond where they Live, so I Did, & when I come back I stop in,ytf It was just night, there was a rich man lived on the other side of theytf road, I suppose I would let me have bed to sleep in, but I thought I hadytf rather lay by the mans fire, I felt their worth, I wanted to be withytf them, In the morning when I going away I asked the women to hand meytf a bowle she was unarilling I the most, she gotytf one for I took out Part of my meal & left it with her, felt theytf wants of the Poore Children, so that are not carry all my meal awayytf then I took leave of them & went home Quietly.ytf
I am not well enough to read or write this letter. In my opinion, there is no reason for me to do so. I am sick and cannot think clearly. My mind is troubled, and I cannot concentrate on anything. I am trying to remember what I need to write, but it is difficult. I hope to get better soon and be able to communicate properly.
And so kept along when I feel my mind in sympathy with any, Iytf try some way to go & see them, began to think I was getting alongytf Pretty well, soone Day I was thinking I should go to meeting 3 or 4 Daysytf hence, I began to think what I should say when I should come there, so Iytf thought It over, I got something fixed in my mind, I thought it would Doytf Pretty well, I hung it up, & by & by I took it looked at it again Iytf thought it would Do very well, I hung it up so I Did good many timesytf before meeting Day come I went to meeting & after the Priest gotytf through, I stood up & said it off as well as I could and I thought Iytf said it off Pretty well, but Oh how I was Distress & so I Passed along aytf long time, Did not know what the matter was Then something come &ytf talked to me & says, Did you ever know a Great man if he want Greatytf Business Done away to Congress, or to ytf Philadelphia to send a Poore ignorant unlerned man to Doytf it No I say I Did not, No more wont Great Spirit take you well I thoughtytf sure Enough I have been mistaken I never have known what good is, And Oh,ytf how I was Distress, but Did not know where to find good (This he supposedytf to be the bad spirit coming at a time when he had mised it at theytf Endeavouring to Persuade him, that he never had known what good was, Thenytf says somthing & he come & talked me, which heytf sup posed was the good spirit, and says Great One knows all things, he canytf Do all things, he knows what is Best, And if a King want great businessytf Done, & he has servants under him, if he wants to send one to Doytf business for him, if he is a wise Learned man, he ought to say what theytf King tell him to say, if he is an ignorant unlerned man, if he can talk, heytf can say over after the King, just what the King tell him to say, if it 2, 3ytf or 4 words more or less just as the King says just so he ought to say Thenytf it says to one supose one of your neighbour have a Piece of to him,ytf a very got when it was give to him, he takes it, feelsytf of it, looks at it; handles it; hangs it up, then by & by he takes itytf Down, he feels of it, handles it, looks at it; hangs it up, so he Do a ytf great many times, & keep it 3 or 4 Days, til it begins to stink, then heytf take it, cook it & set before you, to Eat, would you Eat it no I say Iytf would not Eat it well it says just so your Preaching was the other Day Theytf Great spirit wont have it folk wont have it Then it cameythf in to my mind the Passage when there was a Piece of money brought to ourytf saviour I Don't remember he asked them whose Imageytf & Inscription was on it They told him well he told them toytf render to ceasars the things that are cesars, & to God things that areytf God I see my Parking had Cesar inserption on itytf Because it was something of any own Prepareing it Did not come from theytf Great Spirit, therefore it had not his superscripti on on it, & he wouldn'tytf not have it, & that was the reason I was so troubled; I see that Everyytf thing of mans contrivance had cesar superscription on it and only that, ytf that comes Immediately from the Great Spirit, that would return to him, oryn that would be food for his True sheep, my says christ know any ytf & they follow but the Voice of a stranger they will not follow Iytf thought some time heard a strange Voice, Puting his hand to his Breast saysytf Did not feel I love to feel it here then
As I sat in prayer, the answer came: let me tell you. The Lord God said to the man, you have been trusted with the care of his affairs. You have been responsible for his property, and now I will give you a dream to interpret. In this dream, you will meet the king, and he will ask for your wisdom. When you tell him your dream, he will come to you and say, 'I have had a dream, and I do not understand it. I have summoned the wise men of my kingdom, but they cannot interpret it.' Then you will say to him, 'My Lord, there is a man in your kingdom who is wise and can interpret dreams.' The king will say, 'Bring him to me, and let him interpret my dream.'

My interpretation is this: the king is like Joseph, who was exalted to a high position in his father's favor. He dreamed that he was serving as a royal officer, and the Lord spoke to him, saying, 'You will be exalted to a position of power in the kingdom.' When Joseph interpreted the dreams of the king, he saw that he was going to be exalted, and that his brothers would bow down to him. So the king summoned Joseph and set him over all the land of Egypt, and the Lord blessed his dreams, and Joseph prospered in his service to the king.

The Lord spoke to me, saying, 'Joseph is like a savior for his people, and he will bring them out of bondage. He will interpret the dreams of the king, and he will be exalted to a position of power in the kingdom.' So I encourage you to pray for Joseph, and to bless him with your prayers. And I ask you to remember the Lord, who has blessed Joseph and given him wisdom to interpret dreams. May you be blessed as you pray for Joseph, and may the Lord bless you and give you wisdom to interpret your own dreams.
Then it opened in my mind the Passage where the multitude followed our Savior in to the, the disciples seemed willing to send them away & give them nothing; but he knew their wants, he did not want them to by the way he called on the Disciples, & asked them if they had any thing for them, they say we have a few loves & a few fishes, but what are they among so many, but he knew what he was going to do, he directed that the multitude should all sit down incompany on the grass; then he called on the Disciples & they gave all up to him that they had, then he took & broke it, & blessed it; then gave it to the Disciples, after all this was done, then he commanded them to hand it to the multitude, then it was food for them, they had enough to spare just so I see it is now, when the great spirit is pleased to break the bread of life, hand it to his Disciples, & command them to hand it to the people, then it is food for them. Now after this it was laid upon me again to encourage others to do well, but the work looked to be so great, & I felt like such a poor ignorant Indian, that I thought I could not give up to it. And said to that that talked with one there is a great many that can do better than I can, take some this one & excuse one, it asked me who; I said such a one, it told one to fetch him up, I did in any mind putting his hand to his breast as tho he brought it to the witness in himself, but he would not have him, but shoved him away & so in this way he said he brought up a number, but he would not have them, & told me I must give up. Now I found the great spirit condescended to weak state & opened things to my understanding in a way to meet my capacity so I found it was necessary to wait upon him to be instructed, what to say, how to say, & when & when I could say the servants that was sent out to invite in to the feast, it is done Lord as those commanded & yet there is room, then I find there is yet room for more exercise & more labour, more invitation, the way is not shut up in any heart. Then it opened in my mind the circumstance of Joseph, how he was sold by his brethren, & the reason why they sold him, he was designed by the great spirit to be greater than his brethren, he had some dreams that seemed to lead them to think so, some of them had a mind to kill him, others thought best to sell him, & see what would become of his dreams, so they sold him, he was carried down of to Egypt, & put into prison, wrongfully, but the great spirit was with him there & knew what he was going to bring about. He got along pretty well for a while, there was some body in prison with Joseph, and he was released, & Joseph told him when he came in the presence of the king to remember him, but he forgot Joseph till he was brought into a strait, the king had some dreams. I cannot read much, I cannot tell just how it was, but I remember he dreamed something about some ears of corn, eating up some ears of corn, & there nobody could interpret his dreams, then this man remembered Joseph, he was sent for, they great spirit was with him & knowed all things, so he could tell them king the interpretation of his dreams.
Transcription

So when he told him what was a going to the King believed it andytf thought it best to Prepare against the time of Famine, that Joseph said wasytf coming, & he thought there was no one so suitable as Joseph because theytf Great Spirit was with him, so he put all Power in to his hand only the Kingytf was greater, so Joseph ordered store houses to be built & laid up Cornytf for the time of famine that was coming & he had the Keys of the stores,ytf now the famine come, his brethren come to want, they had sold Joseph, &ytf Did not intend to bow to him, but they heard there was corn in Egypt, theirytf father sent some of them Down to buy some, they applyed to Joseph he knewytf them, they Did not know him, he asked if they had any brethren &ytf whe ther they had a Father living, they told him about them, so after aytf while Joseph sent for them, they all went Down & bowed to Joseph, fortyf there was no other way for them to kept alive Now it looked Plain to me,ytf that we have a measure of the good spirit afforded to lead us to Instructytf us & it is greater then we are & de signed to Rule over us, or weytf may Do as that tells us, or we may mind the bad spirit But if we Do, itytf will not yeald the Peaceable fruits of righteousness, & we may say toytf the good spirit, we will not have this man to rule over us, we may Put itytf away and sell it, & it may be Put into Prison, yet a famine willytf overtake there, & though they may go into a far Country, far away fromytf that, that is Right, & and not Even know Joseph or this good spirit,ytf yet that will know them, & it will there rise up & Plead with them,ytf now there is no other way, but to go back again to that; that is wright,ytf & acknowledge Joseph to be greatest he has all Power Commited to him heytf has the Keys of, & they that will not him, must Die.ytf The same Disposition, that was in Josephs Brethren, ytf Days of the Apostles, is now in People, I have seen some folks, so simple, thatytf they got mad with a gun & Broke it all to Pieces, because it had Doneytf some Mischief, as tho the Gun was to blame, if it had not been Charged,ytf & then fire Put to it, it would not; Done any harm, so when theytf apostles were Charged with some thing & the Fire of Divine love operatedytf on them, her they could Do Execution but after it had Passed through them,ytf they were like the Empty Gun, it was not they that Did it; it was that flameytf of Divine love & here the People took the apostles, & Put them toytf Death, as tho they Done it, & thought to stop it from spreading, butytf they could not, for it operated throughytf otherng And it operates the purposeytf
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